

Temecula United Methodist Church

THE MESSENGER

May/June 2026

TUMC is an Inclusive, Reconciling and Affirming Congregation. All who seek God are welcome. Join our TUMC family to participate in worship, education, fellowship, ministry and mission, regardless of race, color or ethnicity, age, marital status, gender, sexual identity, expression, physical or mental ability...*anyone who comes to me, I will never drive away.* John 6:37

This is a place where you will find welcome, support, comfort, and strength for your life.

- Pastor:** Rev. Drew Davis
- Pastor Emeritus:** Rev. Dr. David French
- Admin Secretary:** Adriana Zarate
- Music Director:** Dr. Earl Richards
- Accompanist:** Yu-Chen Agostini
- Youth Director:** Gian Adesso
- LGBTQIA+ Coordinator:** Art Salyer

The Messenger
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- Instagram:** <https://www.instagram.com/temeculaunitedmethodistchurch/>
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Temecula Annual Afternoon Tea

Hosted by United Women In Faith

Join us

May 16th 2:00pm – 4:00pm

for Tea and Fellowship at

Temecula United Methodist Church

42690 Margarita Road, Temecula, CA 92592

\$20 Per Person

Stop by TUMC or Contact

Meghann Adesso for

tickets and more information!

(951)526-7730 or Bigstar951@gmail.com

Raffle, Auction, Tea and So Much Fun!

A MESSAGE FROM PASTOR DREW

As we enter the months of May and June, we do so with the blessing of celebrating the ways we serve and care for each other in the active grace of Jesus Christ. Throughout these activities, we have the opportunity to work and serve together, allowing us to grow closer as a family of faith while displaying love to those in our community who are searching for a place of comfort and understanding.

On May 16, we will host one of our biggest events of the year: our annual tea. This gathering provides a chance for us to come together, share old stories, hear what's happening in the present, and even daydream about the wonderful futures our church can grow toward together. Through the blessings of tea, delightful snacks, and engaging games, we will have the

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A Message From Pastor Drew continued

opportunity to learn more about each other as we see ourselves as a family in the arms of Jesus Christ. This event also serves as a wonderful opportunity to introduce new friends to our community, creating a time of loving inclusion that helps newcomers see the supportive community we are part of and hopefully find their place within it as well.

May and June will also usher in our Pride season.

On May 30 and June 6, we will attend both Oceanside Pride and Riverside Pride. By participating in these events, we will have the opportunity to hear the inspiring stories of others' journeys. Through sharing these experiences, we can understand individuals in new and caring ways. As we learn about the joys and struggles of others, our understanding hopefully leads to greater inclusion and care.

Under the guidance of our church's LGBTQIA+ coordinator, Art Salyer, we will have teams present at these gatherings. Our participation demonstrates to our LGBTQIA+ siblings that we want to be present, caring, and affirming allies. We will approach these events with open hearts and ears, ready to support these beautiful journeys.

As we consider the combination of May and June, we also celebrate the beautiful remembrance of Parent Days. On May 10 and June 21, we will honor the parenting figures in our lives. We recognize that it's not always our birth parents who fulfill this role; sometimes, teachers, coaches, uncles, aunts, and best friends serve as our parenting models. We acknowledge that not every birth parent meets the love and support we need, so within our community, our goal is to create opportunities to receive love, even from individuals outside our birth families.

As June draws closer, it will also be time for us to celebrate the graduating members of our congregation. Please let us know if you have a high school or college graduate in your family so that we can offer them a prayer and a hallelujah for the completion of their work.

Looking ahead, we will continue to focus on building community and celebrating our faith relationships. On June 27, we will hold another missions committee movie night. During this event, we will learn about impactful actions of non-violent advocacy as we aim to be loving and caring hands and feet for marginalized friends who need voices to speak for them, while also being those loving voices in their advocacy.

Additionally, on June 14, we will meet in the evening for a community dinner, which will have a wonderful twist. This night will feature diverse meals and the chance to experience activities offered to the teens of our church. It will be an evening full of fun, games, and community building, similar to what is shared during our UMYF gatherings. If you have a teenager in your family who may feel anxious about attending or nervous about new events, this will be a perfect opportunity for them to learn about the wonderful offerings of our youth program and to relax in a welcoming environment.

God is Love,
Pastor Drew Davis (he/him/his)

WORSHIP SCRIPTURES AND THEMES

May

- 3** **Scripture:** John 14:1-14
Theme: Following the Path and the Footsteps
Liturgist: Steve Webb
Welcome Table: Peggie Webb
- 10** **Scripture:** John 14:15-21
Theme: The Mothering Spirit
Liturgist: Nan Wood
Welcome Table: *Sign up today!*
- 17** **Scripture:** John 17:1-11
Theme: Remember Christ Prays for Us
Liturgist: *Sign up today!*
Welcome Table: Fran Sandipher
- 24** **Scripture:** John 7:37-39
Theme: All Who Are Thirsty
Liturgist: Gail Croteau
Welcome Table: Nan Wood
- 31** **Scripture:** Matthew 28:16-20
Theme: What Ever You Do... GO
Liturgist: *Sign up today!*
Welcome Table: *Sign up today!*

June

- 7** **Scripture:** Matthew 9:9-13, 9:18-26
Theme: Hear the Voice Share Its Need
Liturgist: *Sign up today!*
Welcome Table: *Sign up today!*
- 14** **Scripture:** Matthew 9:35-10:8
Theme: Do It With Them and Not for Them
Liturgist: *Sign up today!*
Welcome Table: *Sign up today!*
- 21** **Scripture:** Matthew 10:24-39
Theme: The True Need of the Gift
Liturgist: *Sign up today!*
Welcome Table: *Sign up today!*
- 28** **Scripture:** Matthew 10:40-42
Theme: A Cup of Cold Water
Liturgist: *Sign up today!*
Welcome Table: *Sign up today!*

May

Happy Anniversary

John & Gail Croteau 05/11
James & Diane Greer 05/13
Pastor Drew & Gretchen Davis 05/23
Russ and Nan Wood 05/26
Steve & Linda Jones 05/29

Happy Birthday

Jessie Boyle 05/08
Alan Sheaffer 05/09
Lauren Hathorn 05/10
Jan Tramontano 05/14
James Greer 05/15
Victoria Roggenbuck 05/17
Peter Peterson Boyle 05/19
Daniel Thompson 05/19
Barbara Lamb 05/22
Cookie Gender 05/23
Drew Ramos 05/24
Penny Wagner 05/24
Molly Edwards 05/29
Ray Mayhugh 05/31
April Tayrien 05/31

June

Happy Anniversary

Garland & Dorothy Smith 06/12
Connie & Rev David French 06/15
Ken & Susan McClellan 06/18
Danilo & Nila Gutierrez 06/20
Gideon & Eva N Tony 06/22
Mark & Monica McCullough 06/24
Art & Lana Salyer 06/26

Happy Birthday

Steve Galbraith 06/04
Joan Biddle 06/08
Marcia Inlow 06/08
Milton Takeguchi 06/08
Cathy Palmer 06/15
Pauline Fields 06/17
Earl Fields 06/18
Joan Thompson 06/19
Rev Randy Johnson 06/23
Matthew Gutierrez 06/24
Robin Wesley 06/29
Kelsey Griffin 06/30

**United Women in Faith
Invite you
Saturday, June 20, 2026
10am to noon
A special program
with Chef Trained
Deeah Rogers**



About Deeah

My love for cooking began at eight years old, standing on a step stool to make Father’s Day breakfast with my mom. With her guidance, I learned to make fluffy eggs to top her garlic rice—a simple moment that sparked a lifelong passion. Over time, cooking became both a creative outlet and a meaningful way to connect with others. I enjoy exploring new flavors, techniques, and recipes that bring people together, whether it’s a simple childhood comforting meal or a more elaborate dish for special occasions. My approach blends curiosity with practicality, drawing inspiration from diverse cuisines while keeping dishes approachable and satisfying. I value fresh ingredients, thoughtful preparation, and the small details that elevate a meal. For me, cooking is about more than food—it’s about comfort, creativity, connection, and creating moments that linger long after the table is cleared.

About the Event

**An exciting demonstration followed
by an amazing meal.
It is necessary to sign up
by June 12. If 15 or less sign up,
Deeah has invited us to her home.
If more sign up, it will be at the church,**

**Sign up on the clipboard in the hall.
For more information see Dr. Marlene
marleneoaks56@gmail.com
951.240.2416**



Tickets now available
For the 2026 UWF
Opportunity Quilt
"Lighting the Way"
Cross and stars paper pieced
One of a kind, designed and created
by Marlene Oaks
Quilted by Debbie Barba
Tickets \$10 or 3 for \$20
The winner will be drawn at our
Annual Tea, May 16, 2026

PRAYERS AND SQUARES



We are currently in **NEED of expanding our Prayers and Squares Team.**

If you can sew, used to sew, or would like to learn to sew, please do come to Prayers and Squares. I can teach any willing person to sew. We meet the **2nd and 4th Friday mornings from 9:30 am to noonish.** Blessings—Marlene Oaks

WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS

We Are Welcoming New Volunteers



to help support our Sunday worship services. If you feel called to serve, consider joining our team of Liturgists or helping at the Welcome Table. Both roles play an important part in creating a warm, organized, and inviting experience for everyone who attends.

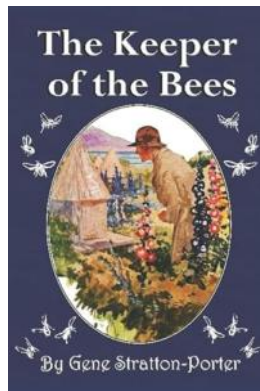
You can also sign up to provide altar flowers on any Sunday. Fresh flowers add beauty and warmth to our worship space, and your contribution helps make our sanctuary feel especially welcoming.

For more details email Pastor Davis at pastordrewdavis@gmail.com or Anita Accordino at araccordino12@verizon.net. A sign up sheet is available at the sign up table.

BOOK BUDDIES

The Keeper of the Bees and Native American Justice

Cookie Gender will host the next Book Buddies book group at her home on Tuesday, May 12 at 6 p.m. as we discuss **The Keeper of the Bees** by Gene Stratton-Porter. Set against the picturesque backdrop of California in 1925, witness the remarkable journey of a World War I veteran, finding healing and restoration amidst the buzzing harmony of the bees and the enchanting landscapes.



You are also welcome at our yearly potluck hosted by Karen Benvenuto at her home on June 2. We will select our next series of books and Darcy Thielemann will lead an interesting discussion of **By the Fire We Carry: The Generations Long Fight for Justice on Native Land**. A winner of several awards, this is a powerful work of reporting and American history that braids the story of the forced removal of Native Americans onto nearby treaty lands in the nation's earliest days, and a small-town murder in the 1990s that led to a Supreme Court ruling reaffirming Native rights to that land more than a century later.

Those interested in attending or seeking more information about the book group should see Ethel Takeguchi or Sue Bradshaw. We always welcome new members. The full schedule and list of books are available in the church breezeway. Please join us.

TUMC SCRIP

WHAT IS SCRIP?

Purchasing Scrip cards is a simple way of raising money for the church budget. Simply purchase gift cards at face value and the church receives a percentage of the sales. The Scrip box has a variety of cards including gas, stores and restaurants. You may also go to RaiseRight.com to see a full list of vendors. Cards may be preordered when orders are placed.



Cards can be purchased on Sunday mornings after service using cash, or check. If you have any questions or would like to place an order contact Janet Galbraith at 951-764-3938 and jngalbraith5@yahoo.com.

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING SCRIP!



TUMC's Stephen Ministers are volunteers trained to walk beside people experiencing difficult times. It's confidential and free, and available to anyone regardless of their affiliation with TUMC.

The TUMC Stephen Ministry chapter provides opportunities to talk openly and confidentially to a compassionate, non-judgmental listener. If you'd like more information, please contact Pastor Drew at pastordrewdavis@gmail.com.

Our volunteer caregivers are ready to meet with you free of charge!

DR. MARLENE OAKS' BOOK



THE BOOK OF MY LIFE: I Wouldn't Believe It Either If I Hadn't Lived It

We are delighted to share that Dr. Marlene's new book is officially available for purchase on Amazon. This is a

wonderful milestone, and we're excited to help spread the word within our church community.

You can get your copy here: <https://a.co/d/01JrGk10>

As part of ongoing discussions in Finance, we are exploring the idea of offering advertising space in our newsletter and bulletins. **This announcement serves as an example of what that could look like.**

We celebrate this exciting moment with Dr. Marlene and encourage everyone to support her work by ordering a copy and sharing the news with friends.

Healing What Was Broken: A Reflection on Church Trauma and LGBTQIA+ Belonging

There are stories that sit quietly in our pews—stories of faith, belonging, and, for many LGBTQIA individuals, deep hurt. Church trauma is not always loud. Sometimes it is silence, exclusion, or words that leave lasting wounds. Over time, these experiences can shape how a person sees themselves, the church, and even God. I spend time almost every week meeting with members of the LGBTQIA....all have experienced Church Trauma.

It is important to name this truth: many LGBTQIA people have experienced real harm within Christian communities, including Methodist spaces. Acknowledging this is not about blame—it is about honesty, which is where healing begins.

Scripture reminds us, “The Lord is close to the brokenhearted” (Psalm 34:18) and calls us to “bear one another’s burdens” (Galatians 6:2). If we are to live out this calling, we must listen with humility and compassion—not to defend, but to understand.

Healing begins when people are truly seen and affirmed. Jesus consistently reached toward those pushed to the margins, and we are called to do the same. Creating a healing church means more than saying “all are welcome”—it means showing it through our words, actions, and leadership.

What Does “Cisgender” Mean?

A cisgender person is someone whose gender identity matches the sex they were assigned at birth. This term helps describe different experiences of gender.

What Can Cisgender Members Do?

Support begins with simple, intentional actions:

- Listen without judgment.
- Use respectful and inclusive language, including names and pronouns.
- Be patient—trust takes time and consistency. • Learn about LGBTQIA experiences on your own.
- Speak up when harmful language or exclusion happens.
- Respect personal boundaries and allow people to share at their own pace.
- Offer visible signs of welcome—such as inclusive greetings, small gestures of support. We have a support group called Amplify that meets almost every Thursday night at our Church at 6:30 PM. It’s made up of members of the LGBTQIA+ community and allies of that community. All are welcome to attend.
- Be willing to reflect and grow, even when it feels uncomfortable.

These everyday choices help create a culture where healing is possible and where people begin to feel safe again.

A Message of Hope

There is hope. Jesus teaches, “Love one another as I have loved you” (John 13:34). And in Christ, “you are all one” (Galatians 3:28). Each act of compassion helps rebuild trust and opens the door to renewed faith.

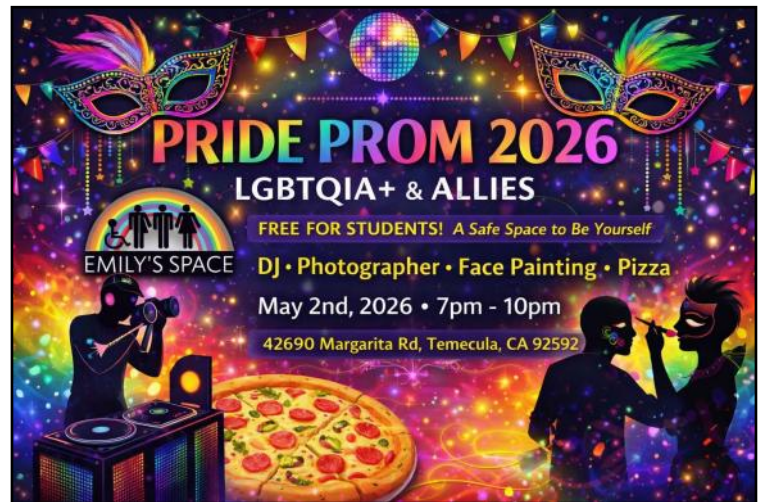
To those carrying church trauma: your story matters. And to our congregation: may we be known not for exclusion, but for love in action. Healing is not only possible—it is part of our calling.

We Are Here to Help

Pastor Drew and I are always available to meet with the LGBTQIA+ outside and inside of church to help. Please do reach out and refer them to us.

Art Salyer, LGBTQIA+ Ministry Coordinator

artsalyer@gmail.com, Tel: 818.371.1009



GOLDEN BASKETS

May

03 Pastor's Ministerial Outreach Fund
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17 Heifer International
24 Rev. Joel Hortiales
31 Peace with Justice

June

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Pastor's Ministries & Outreach

This fund helps members of the church and the community with emergency needs, such as rent, gas, and food.



Ensuring Safety, Protecting Families, and Seeking Justice.

The **SAFE Family Justice Centers** are a safe place for victims of abuse to get help. SAFE Family Justice Centers provide advocacy and support services to individuals who have experienced domestic violence, sexual assault, human trafficking, child/elder abuse and services for youth who are at risk. For more information visit <https://safefjc.org/>

Heifer International Accelerating the Path to Living Incomes

Nutritious food. Shelter. Clean water. A decent education. Access to health care. And a safe and secure environment.

Learn more about this organization by reading the Blog at <https://www.heifer.org/blog/index.html>

Our Missionary Rev. Joel Hortiales

Joel works closely with the conference executive director of connectional ministries in coordination of Hispanic/Latino ministries, including border ministries in the San Diego and Imperial County areas.



Peace With Justice Sunday

It is a special Sunday offering that funds initiatives focusing on peace, justice, and systemic change, with 50% of donations staying in the local conference to support community advocacy and ministries.

LGBTQIA+ Outreach and Care

This month's offering supports both our Amplify group and local organizations like the Temecula Valley Pride Center, strengthening our commitment to caring for and uplifting our LGBTQIA+ siblings.



Empowerment Village Provides rent-reduced housing, education, and supportive accountability for moms and children working toward long-term stability



Ensuring that every American has clean, running water forever.

A human-rights nonprofit bringing clean, running water to the 2.2 million Americans who still live without it through community-led water projects and advocacy. For more info visit <https://digdeep.org/>

Christ Ministry Center Services Provided by CMC:

- Good Neighbor Center
- Spiritual Ministries
- Free Clinics
- Brothers Keeper Clothes
- Prison, Detention, Recovery
- The Welcome Home
- Safe Harbor Loft
- AbundantHELP and much more



The above list is just some of the things that Christ Ministry Center does for the community. Visit <https://www.cummc.org/>

Food Pantry Items Needed

May: Canned Tuna



June: Canned Fruits and Vegetables

VOLUNTEERS & CARE

IF YOU ARE LOOKING FOR WAYS TO BECOME MORE INVOLVED IN OUR FAMILY OR ARE SEEKING CARE IN A SPECIFIC AREA, ONE OF THESE LEADERS MAY BE ABLE TO ASSIST YOU. IF YOU ARE SEARCHING FOR SOMETHING THAT IS NOT LISTED, PLEASE REACH OUT TO PASTOR DREW. YOU MIGHT BE THE LEADER HE IS LOOKING FOR.

LGBTQIA+ & AMPLIFY

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